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FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 8244  
INFO RUEHXX/ARAB ISRAELI COLLECTIVE  
RUCNMEM/EU MEMBER STATES COLLECTIVE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 001766

SIPDIS

PLEASE PASS IO/UNP ANDREW MORRISON AND EUR/PGI JODY  
BUCKNEBERG

E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/20/2018  
TAGS: [PREL](#) [UNGA](#) [IS](#) [PA](#) [LE](#) [SY](#) [BE](#)  
SUBJECT: BELGIUM: OPPOSING UNGA RESOLUTIONS WITH  
ANTI-ISRAEL BIAS

REF: SECSTATE 123081

Classified By: Political Economic Counselor Richard Eason for reason 1.  
4 (B) and (D).

1. (C) Poloff received feedback November 21 on reftel demarche from Belgian MFA UN Security Council interlocutor covering Middle East issues, Cristophe De Bassompierre. De Bassompierre cautioned the U.S. not to expect any significant change in Belgian or E.U. voting patterns on Israel-Palestine issues. The E.U.'s main effort is expended in maintaining unity on these issues among member states, with Malta and Cyprus the most likely to break ranks due to closeness to the Palestinians. On the three specific committee resolutions referenced, he predicted that the E.U. would continue to abstain if the measures had the same wording. If the wording were changed, E.U. voting might move to yes or no, depending on the specifics.

2. (C) De Bassompierre said that Belgium and the E.U. are also concerned with the numbers of anti-Israeli measures and have tried to reduce them in the past, but the current environment in the U.N. ensured that numerous resolutions would continue to be introduced.

3. (C) The E.U. prefers to abstain on these resolutions, as it does not wish to be overly negative towards Palestinian aspirations. The E.U. seeks to maintain its influence as an intermediary between the Palestinians and Israelis and avoid taking stances that would lead to a worsening of the close relationship.

FOX.

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